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United States Patent and Trademark Office  
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/664,641	09/19/2000	Y. Tom Tang	788CIP2C	4944

7590 02/06/2003

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EXAMINER

SOUAYA, JEHANNE E

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1634

DATE MAILED: 02/06/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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# Notice of Abandonment

Application No.

09/664,641

Applicant(s)

Tang et al.

Examiner

Jehanne Souaya

Art Unit

1634



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

This application is abandoned in view of:

1. ☒ Applicant's failure to timely file a proper reply to the Office letter mailed on Jun 19, 2002

(a) ☐ A reply was received on \_\_\_\_\_ (with a Certificate of Mailing or Transmission dated \_\_\_\_\_), which is after the expiration of the period for reply (including a total extension of \_\_\_\_\_ month(s)) which expired on \_\_\_\_\_.

(b) ☐ A proposed reply was received on \_\_\_\_\_, but it does not constitute a proper reply under 37 CFR 1.113(a) to the final rejection.

(A proper reply under 37 CFR 1.113 to a final rejection consists only of: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114).

(c) ☐ A reply was received on \_\_\_\_\_ but it does not constitute a proper reply, or a bona fide attempt at a proper reply, to the non-final rejection. See 37 CFR 1.85(a) and 1.111. (See explanation in box 7 below).

(d) ☒ No reply has been received.

2. ☐ Applicant's failure to timely pay the required issue fee and publication fee, if applicable, within the statutory period of three months from the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85).

(a) ☐ The issue fee and publication fee, if applicable, was received on \_\_\_\_\_ (with a Certificate of Mailing or Transmission dated \_\_\_\_\_), which is after the expiration of the statutory period for payment of the issue fee (and publication fee) set in the Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85).

(b) ☐ The submitted issue fee of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is insufficient. A balance of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is due.

The issue fee required by 37 CFR 1.18 is \$ \_\_\_\_\_. The publication fee, if required by 37 CFR 1.18(d) is \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(c) ☐ The issue fee and publication fee, if applicable, has not been received.

3. ☐ Applicant's failure to timely file corrected drawings as required by, and within the three-month period set in, the Notice of Allowability (PTO-37).

(a) ☐ Proposed new formal drawings were received on \_\_\_\_\_ (with a Certificate of Mailing or Transmission dated \_\_\_\_\_), which is after the expiration of the period for reply.

(b) ☐ No corrected drawings have been received.

4. ☐ The letter of express abandonment which is signed by the attorney or agent of record, the assignee of the entire interest, or all of the applicants.

5. ☐ The letter of express abandonment which is signed by an attorney or agent (acting in a representative capacity under 37 CFR 1.34(a)) upon the filing of a continuing application.

6. ☐ The decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences rendered on \_\_\_\_\_ and because the period for seeking court review of the decision has expired and there are no allowed claims.

7. ☐ The reason(s) below:

JEHANNE SOUAYA  
PATENT EXAMINER

*Jehanne Souaya*  
2/4/03

Petitions to revive under 37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b), or requests to withdraw the holding of abandonment under 37 CFR 1.181, should be promptly filed to minimize any negative effects on patent term.



UNITED STATES  
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DEC 20 2002

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

Dear Patent Business Customer:

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has begun testing the use of image technology to replace paper processing of patent applications. You have the opportunity to be involved with a historic prototype that is testing this electronic processing of patent applications within three art units (1634, 2827 and 2834) and the Office of Initial Patent Examination (OIPE).

**What will be tested during the prototype?**

In the prototype, the paper document contents of pending applications assigned to the three participating art units will be scanned into electronic image files. All processing and examination will be performed with the resulting electronic files during the prototype.

**How will applicants be affected?**

The attached information sheet details two process changes:

- Amendments should be submitted in a special format. Specifically, a new complete claim set with changes marked in strikeouts and underlining should be submitted. No clean copy of the amended claims is necessary. Please see the OG Notice of 12/17/02 (<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/com/sol/og/2002/week51/patimag.htm>.)
- US patent and US published application references will not be mailed with Office actions. These references are available free of charge on our website.
- Applicants are requested to use eIDS for submission of any IDS. For assistance with eIDS, you may contact the Patent Electronic Business Center (toll free at (866) 217-9197).

**What are the official files?**

During the prototype, the Office will maintain in a central location the original papers that constitute the official file. Over the next few months, the Office will be taking steps to have the electronic file deemed the official file.

**How long will the prototype last?**

It is expected that the prototype program will incrementally migrate into a production system, with the goal of eliminating paper patent applications files by early summer.

**Want more information or to provide feedback?**

For more information on the prototype or to provide feedback, please contact :  
Search and Information Resources Administration at [image.processing@uspto.gov](mailto:image.processing@uspto.gov)

Through your participation, USPTO will have an opportunity to test the electronic processing of patent applications and meet its goal of delivering high quality products through implementation of electronic patent processing by the end of 2004. Thank you for your support for this exciting activity and for helping the USPTO achieve its goal of providing better service through e-Government.

Sincerely,

Nicholas P. Godici  
Commissioner for Patents

## NOTIFICATION OF REQUESTED NEW FORMAT FOR AMENDMENTS AND/OR RESPONSES FILED IN ART UNITS 1634, 2827, AND 2834

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is currently conducting a prototype of electronic application processing and examination in **Art Units 1634, 2827, and 2834**. To facilitate the prototype, the following changes in format for Amendments and/or Responses filed in those Art Units are requested.

### **Requested Format of Amendments and Responses during the prototype.**

Each section of an Amendment and/or Response (e.g., Claim Amendments, Specification Amendments, Remarks) should begin on a separate sheet to facilitate separate indexing and scanning of the document. *For example*, in an Amendment containing a.) introductory comments, b.) amendments to the claims, c.) amendments to the specification, and d.) remarks, each of these sections should begin on a separate sheet. **For each amendment filed in Art Units 1634, 2827, and 2834, the requirement to provide two sets of claims (a clean version and a marked up version), as set forth in 37 CFR 1.121(c), will be waived where the following format is employed.**

Each amendment that includes a change to an existing claim, or submission of a new claim shall be made by submitting a **summary document with the status of all claims and the text of all pending claims as follows:**

- (1) The status of all of the claims in the application, including any previously canceled or withdrawn claims, must be summarized in each amendment document. Status is indicated by a parenthetical expression following the claim number (e.g. (original), (currently amended), (previously amended), (canceled), (withdrawn), or (new)). The text of all pending claims must be submitted each time any claim is amended. Canceled and withdrawn claims may be indicated by only the claim number and status.
- (2) All claims being currently amended must be submitted with markings to indicate the changes that have been made. The changes in any amended claim may be shown by strikethrough (for deleted matter) or underlining (for added matter), or by any equivalent marking system.
- (3) The text of pending claims not being amended must be presented in each amendment document in clean version, i.e., without any markings. Any claim presented in clean version will constitute an assertion that it has not been changed relative to the immediate prior version.
- (4) A claim may be canceled by merely providing an instruction to cancel. Any claims added by amendment must be indicated as (new).
- (5) All of the claims in each amendment paper must be presented in ascending numerical order. Consecutive canceled or withdrawn claims may be aggregated into one statement (e.g. Claims 1 – 5 (canceled)).

Amendments to the specification are performed in the conventional manner (37 CFR 1.121(b)).

### **Patent Copies**

Additionally, applicants and practitioners will no longer be required to provide copies of U.S. Patents and Published U.S. Patent Applications cited in any Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) submitted to the USPTO during the prototype and in applications assigned to the three art units. It is requested that eIDSs be used to file all IDS papers for applications before the prototype Art Units. Similarly, during the prototype, copies of U.S. Patents and Published U.S. Patent Applications cited by an examiner during prosecution of an application will not be provided to applicants in Office actions from these Art Units. These documents are available from the USPTO web site, [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) for free download. Cited foreign patents and published applications and non-patent literature will be mailed by conventional processing.

**The above requested new format and procedures are applicable during the prototype only to applications assigned to Art Units 1634, 2827, and 2834.** Any questions regarding these requirements may be directed to [image.processing@uspto.gov](mailto:image.processing@uspto.gov) or one of the Supervisory Patent Examiners of these Art Units 1634 – [Gary.Jones@uspto.gov](mailto:Gary.Jones@uspto.gov); 2827 – [Dave.Talbott@uspto.gov](mailto:Dave.Talbott@uspto.gov) or 2834 – [Nestor.Ramirez@uspto.gov](mailto:Nestor.Ramirez@uspto.gov).

**Example:**

Claims 1-5 (canceled) (Note: consecutive canceled or withdrawn claims may be aggregated)

Claim 6 (withdrawn)

Claim 7 (previously amended): A bucket with a handle.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A bucket with a ~~green~~ blue handle.

Claim 9 (withdrawn)

Claim 10 (original): A bucket with a wooden handle.

Claim 11: (new): A bucket with plastic sides and bottom.

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Organization

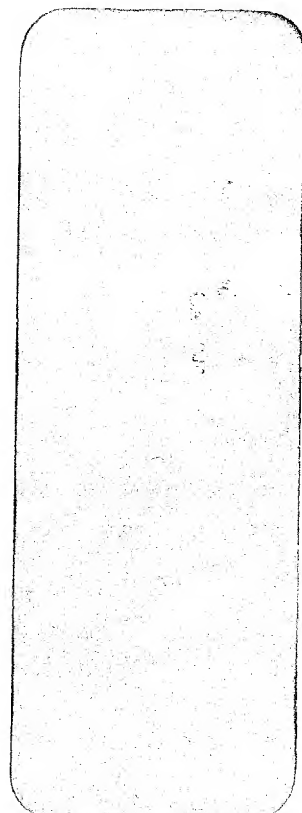
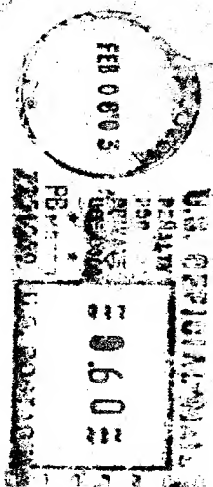
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IF UNDELIVERABLE RETURN IN TEN DAYS

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09/664641